

MARVEL

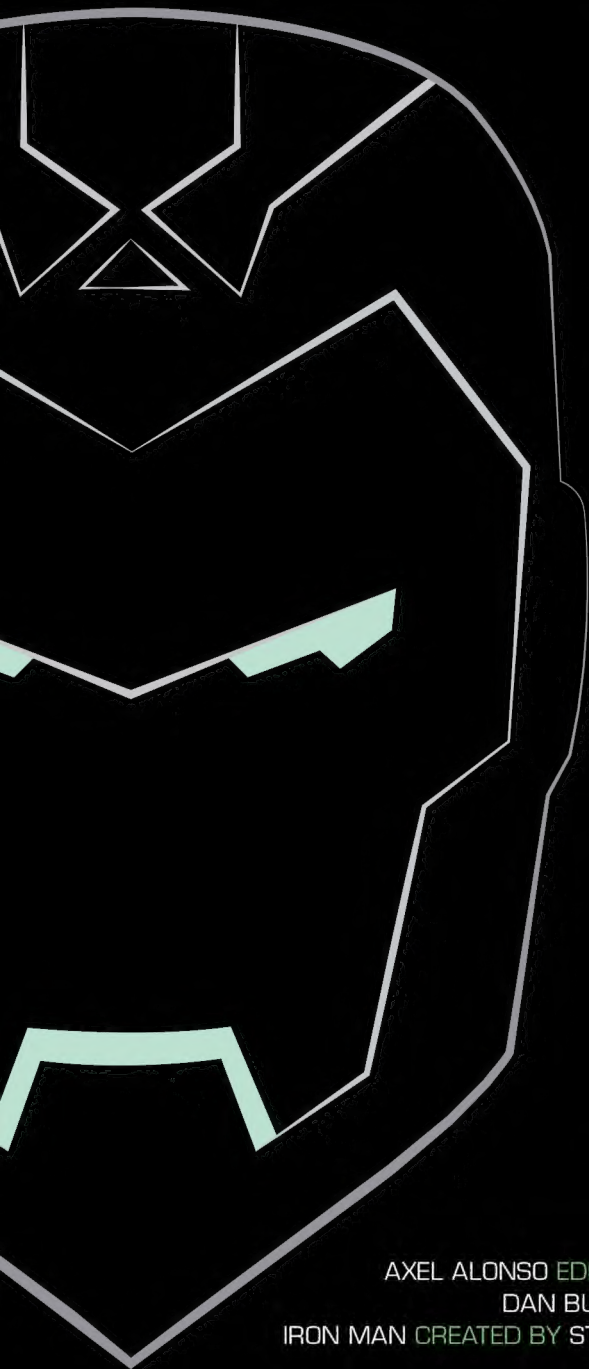
#8

INFAMOUS IRON MAN



**BENDIS
MALEEV
HOLLINGSWORTH**

INFAMOUS IRON MAN



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Victor Von Doom has lived a lifetime of devious infamy as Doctor Doom—but recent events, including the sudden, almost fatal incapacitation of Tony Stark, A.K.A. Iron Man, have inspired Doom to dedicate his life to more heroic pursuits...as the **INFAMOUS IRON MAN**.

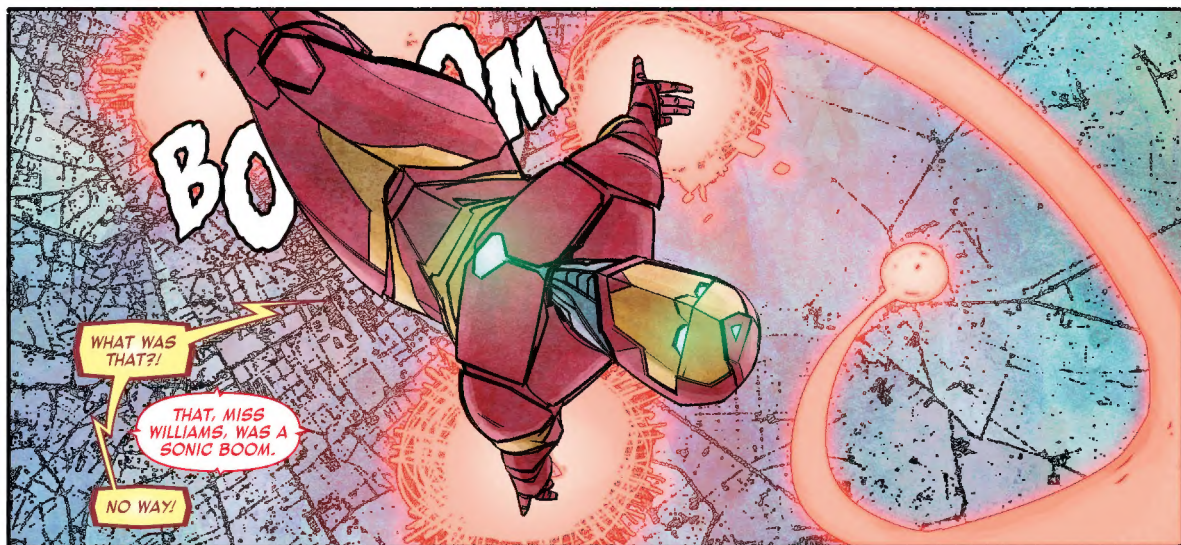
Victor recently discovered that his mother, the dark arts master Cynthia Von Doom, was not dead as he had believed. She claimed she wanted to rekindle their relationship now that Victor was turning over a new leaf—but there's a dark version of Reed Richards whispering in her ear at every turn, and his motives are still unknown.

Reed has now tracked down Ben Grimm, A.K.A. the Thing—who's in charge of the S.H.I.E.L.D. investigation into Victor's recent activities. And Ben's not the only person concerned about Doom's recent change of heart...

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BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS WRITER
ALEX MALEEV ARTIST
MATT HOLLINGSWORTH COLOR ARTIST
VC'S CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER & PRODUCTION
ALEX MALEEV COVER ARTIST
ALANNA SMITH ASSISTANT EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PRESIDENT ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK AND JACK KIRBY

.....



WHAT WAS THAT?!

THAT, MISS WILLIAMS, WAS A SONIC BOOM.

NO WAY!



AWESOME.

PLEASE.

GIVE ME EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT ON LATVERIA.

PLEASE, DIGITAL RECONSTRUCTION OF TONY STARK'S CONSCIOUSNESS, PLEASE LET ME SEE INTEL ON LATVERIA AS THAT IS WHERE WE ARE GOING.

FIRST TIME I'VE EVER LEFT THE COUNTRY!

THIS IS EXCITING! GREAT TEST FOR THE NEW SUIT SYSTEMS.



LET'S SEE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT WHEN YOU'RE 150 MILES OUT OVER THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.

I DON'T HAVE A PASSPORT.

I'M PROBABLY BREAKING A LAW.

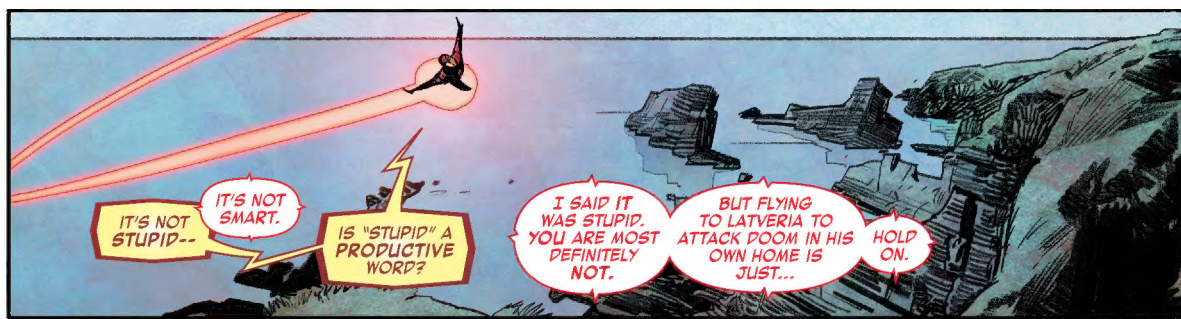
YOU'RE BREAKING 47 LAWS. WOULD YOU CARE FOR THE LIST?



BUT I'M A MINOR!

OH, THAT'S RIGHT, 49 LAWS.

AT LEAST YOU'RE DOING IT FOR A COMPLETELY STUPID REASON.



IT'S NOT STUPID--

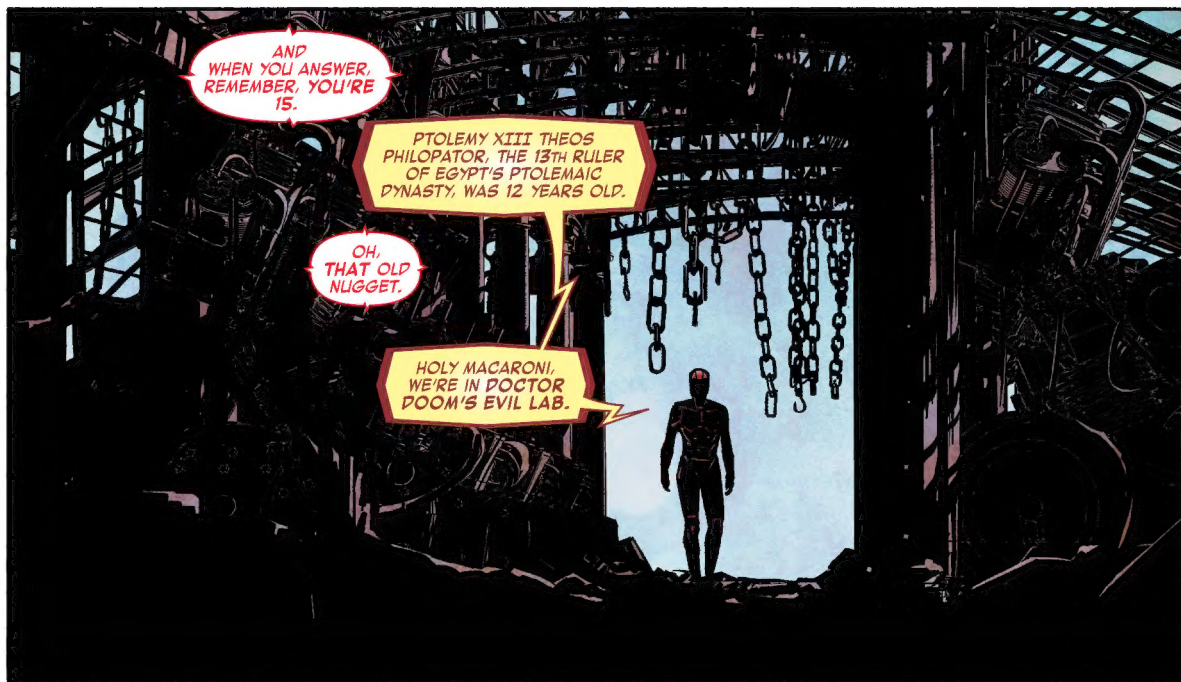
IT'S NOT SMART.

IS "STUPID" A PRODUCTIVE WORD?

I SAID IT WAS STUPID. YOU ARE MOST DEFINITELY NOT.

BUT FLYING TO LATVERIA TO ATTACK P.O.M. IN HIS OWN HOME IS JUST...

HOLD ON.



AND
WHEN YOU ANSWER,
REMEMBER, YOU'RE
15.

PTOLEMY XIII THEOS
PHILOPATOR, THE 13TH RULER
OF EGYPT'S PTOLEMAIC
DYNASTY, WAS 12 YEARS OLD.

OH,
THAT OLD
NUGGET.

HOLY MACARONI,
WE'RE IN DOCTOR
POOM'S EVIL LAB.



IT'S
JUST A
LAB.

CAN I HAVE
THIS MOMENT,
PLEASE?

IT'S MY
FIRST EVIL
LAB.



WELCOME
TO YOUR FIRST
EVIL LAB.

THANK
YOU.

BUT
LABS CAN'T
BE EVIL.



SEE THAT?

UM...

EMPTY
ARMOR.

OKAY.

IT'S
NOT ON RAPAR,
BUT IT'S CLEARLY
RIGHT
THERE.



I WANT IT
FOR PARTS.

YOU WOULD
HAVE BEEN A
GREAT TERRIBLE
PIRATE.

SEE, YOU
CAN SAY NICE
THINGS.

MISS
WILLIAMS...



...NICE TO MEET YOU.

I'VE READ ABOUT YOU.

INTERESTING START.

MY NAME IS VICTOR.

THIS USED TO BE MY HOME.

WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?



UM...

TAKE OFF YOUR MASK.



ANYTHING ELSE?



UH, I DIDN'T EXACTLY EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE.

THEN WHY ARE YOU HERE?

I WAS LOOKING FOR CLUES ABOUT WHERE I MIGHT FIND YOU.

WELL...



...IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE A WHOLE DAY OF FREE TIME AHEAD OF YOU.

ARE YOU REALLY HIM?
ARE YOU REALLY DOCTOR DOOM?

YOU'LL HAVE TO SIFT THROUGH THE RUBBLE, BUT I THINK MY DOCTORATES ARE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.

WHY WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME?



YOU CAN'T BE IRON MAN.

YOU HAVE TO STOP.

MANHATTAN.



THERE WAS THIS ONE TIME WHERE WE SPENT AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE.

(WHICH IS, IN ITSELF, UNPLEASANT.)



BUT, AS YOU WERE SO RIGHT TO ONCE SAY--THE WORST PART ABOUT THE NEGATIVE ZONE IS THAT THERE'S NOTHING TO EAT IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE.

SO, AFTERWARDS, YOU AND JOHNNY AND MYSELF, IT'S ONE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, AND WE ENDED UP AT THIS PIZZA PLACE ON 57TH THAT YOU *INSISTED* WAS THE BEST PIZZA IN THE CITY.



IT WAS TERRIBLE.



I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR GETTING MY HOPES UP.

BUT WE SAT OUTSIDE, IN THE COOL NIGHT AIR, AND ATE OUR TERRIBLE PIZZA.



AFTER DAYS IN AN ALTERNATE DIMENSION MADE OUT OF NEGATIVE MATTER...

...WE JUST ENJOYED THE REALITY OF NEW YORK CITY.



THAT BEAUTIFUL, DISGUSTING SMELL STEW.

WET STREETS AT ONE IN THE MORNING.

AFTER ALL WE'D BEEN THROUGH IT JUST SEEMED... PERFECT.



SO WE'RE OUT THERE, IN THE NIGHT, AND THESE THREE ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN COME UP AND SAY HI.

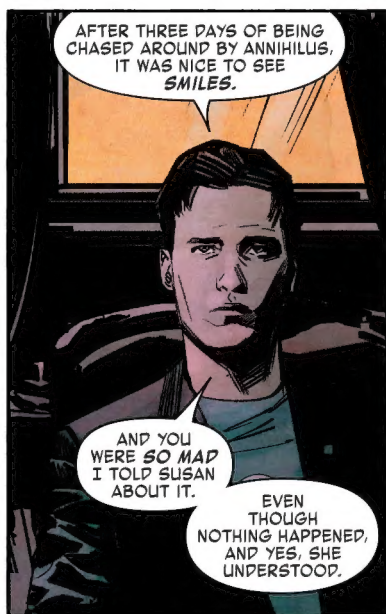


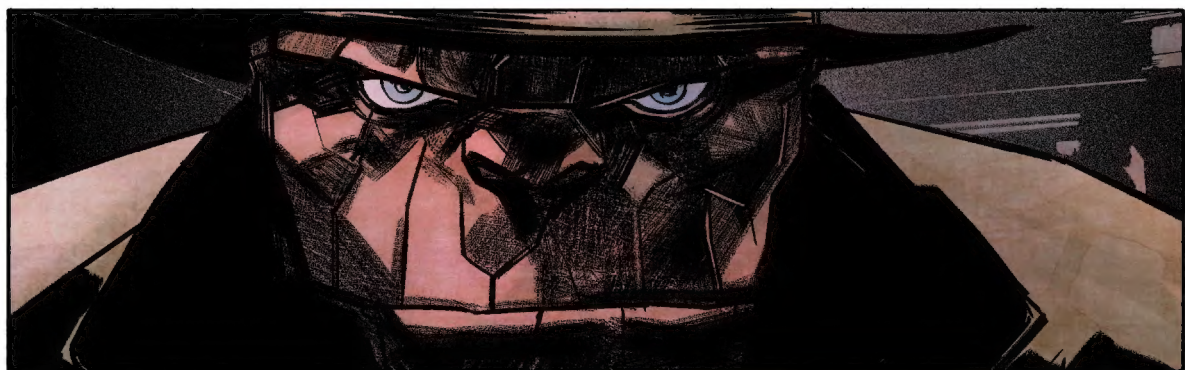
WHY WERE THEY HERE?

FASHION WEEK. YES.

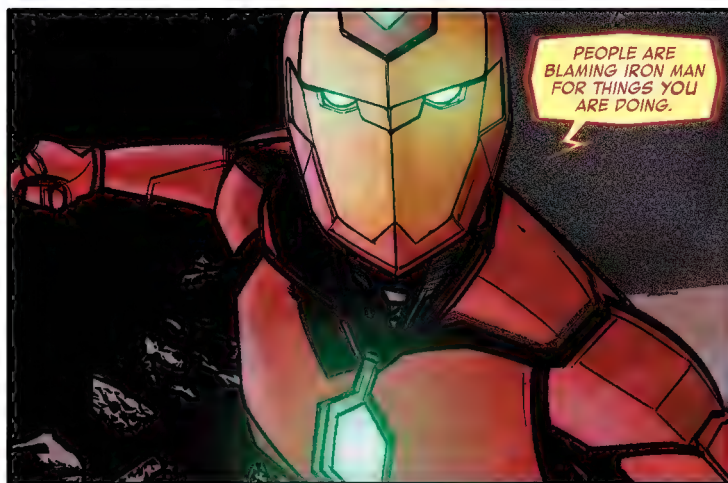
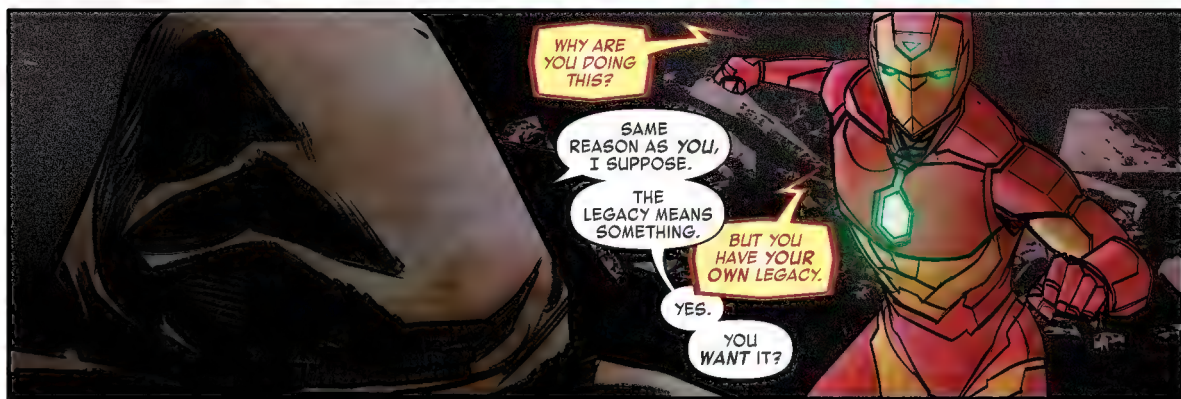
THEY CAME UP TO US AND JOHNNY RECOGNIZED ONE OF THEM, OF COURSE, AND THEY ALL RECOGNIZED YOU, OF COURSE...













YOU DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TO DO.

THAT'S
OKAY.

YOU'VE DONE
THE MATH, I AM
SURE, AND YOU
KNOW THE FIGHT
WILL GO POORLY
FOR YOU.

EVEN IF
I CHOOSE TO HAVE
PITY ON YOU AND TELEPORT
YOU HOME OR BANISH
YOU AWAY.



YOU CAN
DO THAT?

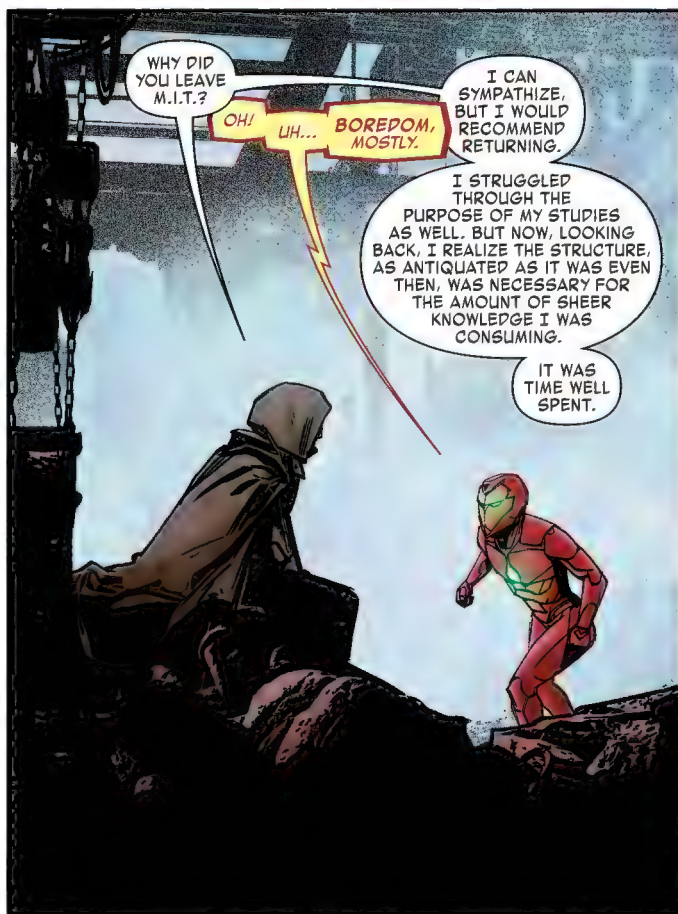
IT'S AN
OLD FAMILY
RECIPE.



I'M PULLING A
RETREAT COMMAND
OVERRIDE.

NO.
NO! OVERRIDE
OVERRITTEN!

STAY!



WHY DID
YOU LEAVE
M.I.T.?

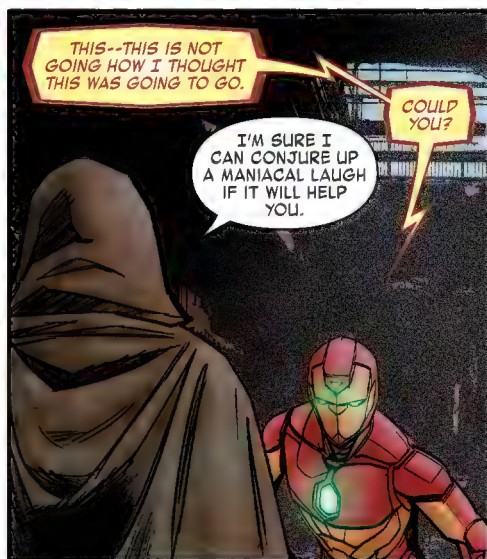
OH!

UH... BOREDOM,
MOSTLY.

I CAN
SYMPATHIZE,
BUT I WOULD
RECOMMEND
RETURNING.

I STRUGGLED
THROUGH THE
PURPOSE OF MY STUDIES
AS WELL. BUT NOW, LOOKING
BACK, I REALIZE THE STRUCTURE,
AS ANTIQUATED AS IT WAS EVEN
THEN, WAS NECESSARY FOR
THE AMOUNT OF SHEER
KNOWLEDGE I WAS
CONSUMING.

IT WAS
TIME WELL
SPENT.



THIS--THIS IS NOT
GOING HOW I THOUGHT
THIS WAS GOING TO GO.

COULD
YOU?

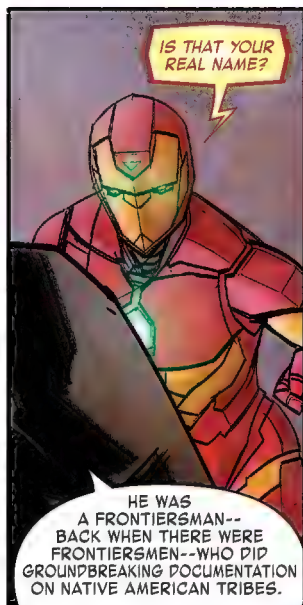
I'M SURE I
CAN CONJURE UP
A MANIACAL LAUGH
IF IT WILL HELP
YOU.



BUT
TO ANSWER YOUR
EARLIER QUESTION--
I CAME HERE FOR
A REASON.

TO
ANSWER YOUR
NEXT QUESTION,
THAT REASON
IS...

...LUCILLUS
VIRGIL
MCWHORTER.



IS THAT YOUR
REAL NAME?

HE WAS
A FRONTIERSMAN--
BACK WHEN THERE WERE
FRONTIERSMEN--WHO DID
GROUNDBREAKING DOCUMENTATION
ON NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES.



IT WAS THROUGH HIS WORK THAT WE
DISCOVERED THAT SOME NATIVE AMERICANS
BELIEVE THAT EVERYTHING--EVERYTHING
IN THE WORLD--POSSESSES A...
SINGULAR CONSCIOUSNESS.

AND
IT'S **THESE**
SPIRIT GUIDES THAT LINK
US TO THE INVISIBLE
WORLDS.



GUIDES
FOR VISION
QUESTS.

YES.

WEYKIN.

DO YOU
KNOW HOW
TO GET
ONE?

I FEEL
LIKE THESE
ARE ALL TRICK
QUESTIONS.

I CAN'T
BELIEVE YOU'RE
CHATTING WITH
HIM.



WEYKIN.

A NEZ
PERCE WORD. TO RECEIVE
A WEYKIN, A YOUNG MEMBER
OF THE TRIBE WOULD GO UP TO
THE MOUNTAINS ON, YES, A VISION
QUEST. IF SUCCESSFUL, THE WEYKIN,
THEIR CHOSEN SPIRITUAL BEING,
WOULD **APPEAR** BEFORE
THEM.

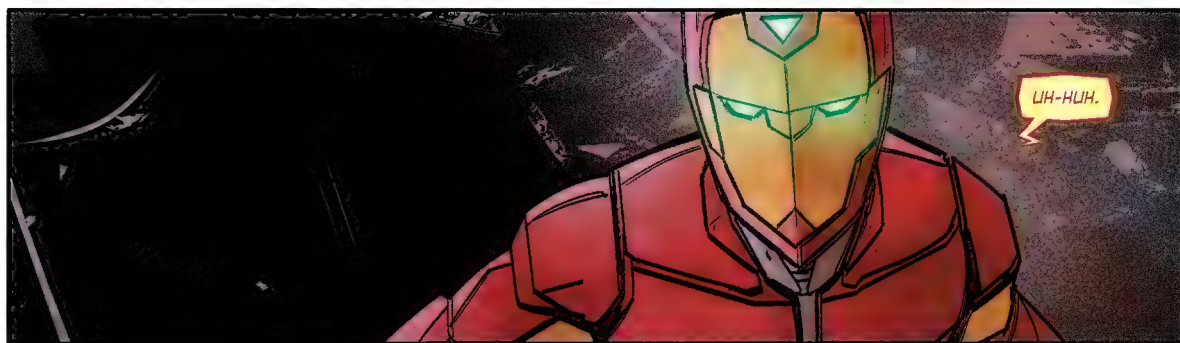
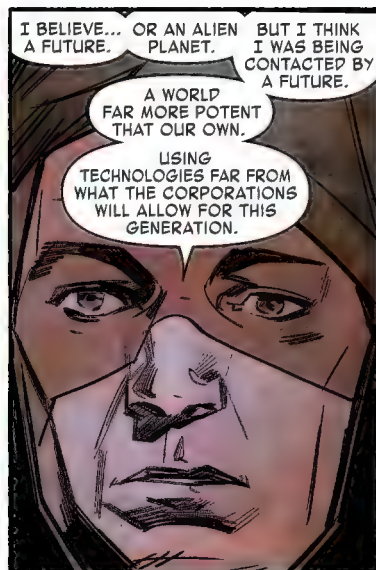
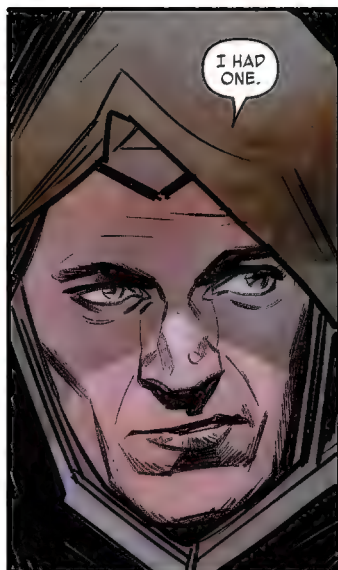
WHETHER OR
NOT THEY SAW THEIR
VISION HAD TO DO WITH
HOW THEY PREPARED
THEMSELVES.

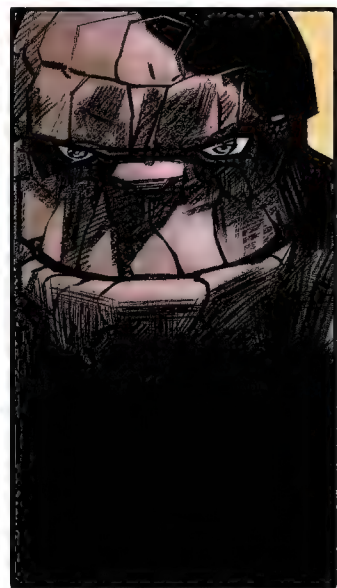
SOME PEOPLE
THINK THAT IT'S DRUGS,
PEYOTE, THAT BRING THE
VISIONS, BUT IN REALITY THEY
WOULD GO OUT AND FAST,
SOMETIMES FOR DAYS,
WITHOUT FIRE, ON TOP
OF A MOUNTAIN...

...THEY SAY
THEY KEEP THE
MIND AWAKE FOR
SO LONG THEIR MIND
BECOMES WHAT THEY
REFERRED TO AS
COMATOSE.



I'M SORRY,
WHAT?







WELL, YOU KNOW, I'M NO DOCTOR, BUT IF IT WAS STRESS THAT BROUGHT ON THE VISION--

AS I WAS SAYING IT, I WAS REALIZING THE LOGIC ERROR IN MY PLAN.

SO THE NEXT TIME YOU FIND YOURSELF UNDER PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL DISTRESS--

WOULD YOU MIND?



I'M SORRY?

WOULD YOU MIND ATTACKING ME?



UM...

...NO?



YOU CAME HERE TO FIGHT ME.

GIVE ME A BLAST AT AROUND LEVEL NINE REPULSOR GBPS, THAT SHOULD BE A SUFFICIENT START.

IT MIGHT TAKE A FEW TIMES--I'VE BEEN AROUND.

I'M NOT DOING THAT.



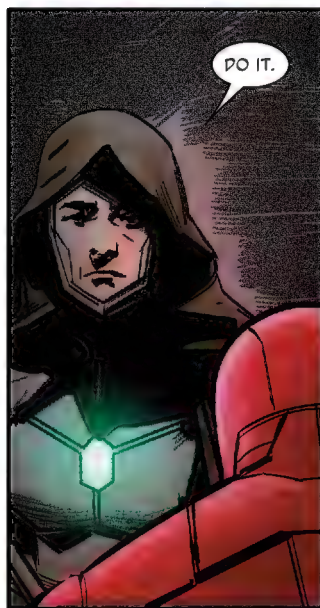
IF IT DOESN'T WORK, I GET KNOCKED OUT AND YOU GET TO TAKE DOCTOR DOOM INTO CUSTODY AND YOUR REPUTATION IS MADE.

THIS HAS GONE INTO A WEIRD AREA I AM--

NO, NO, NO. I TAKE IT BACK.

HIT HIM. WHO CARES?

Empty 8.0%



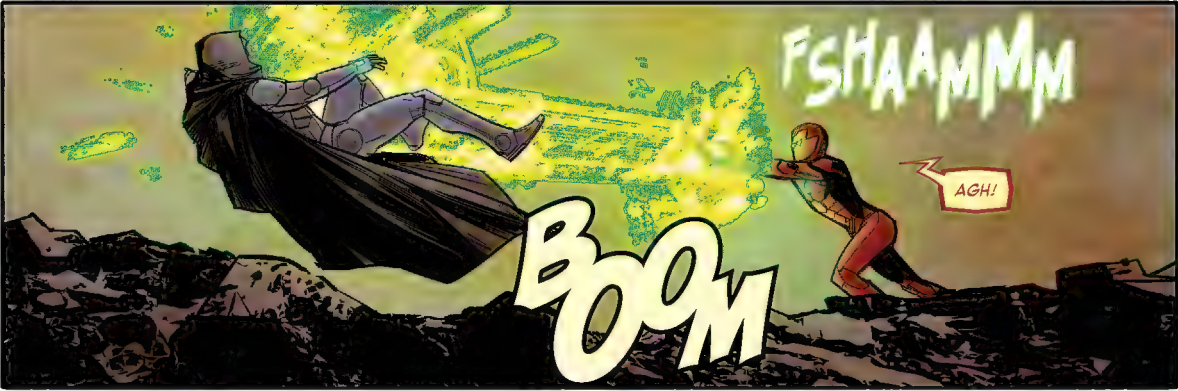
DO IT.

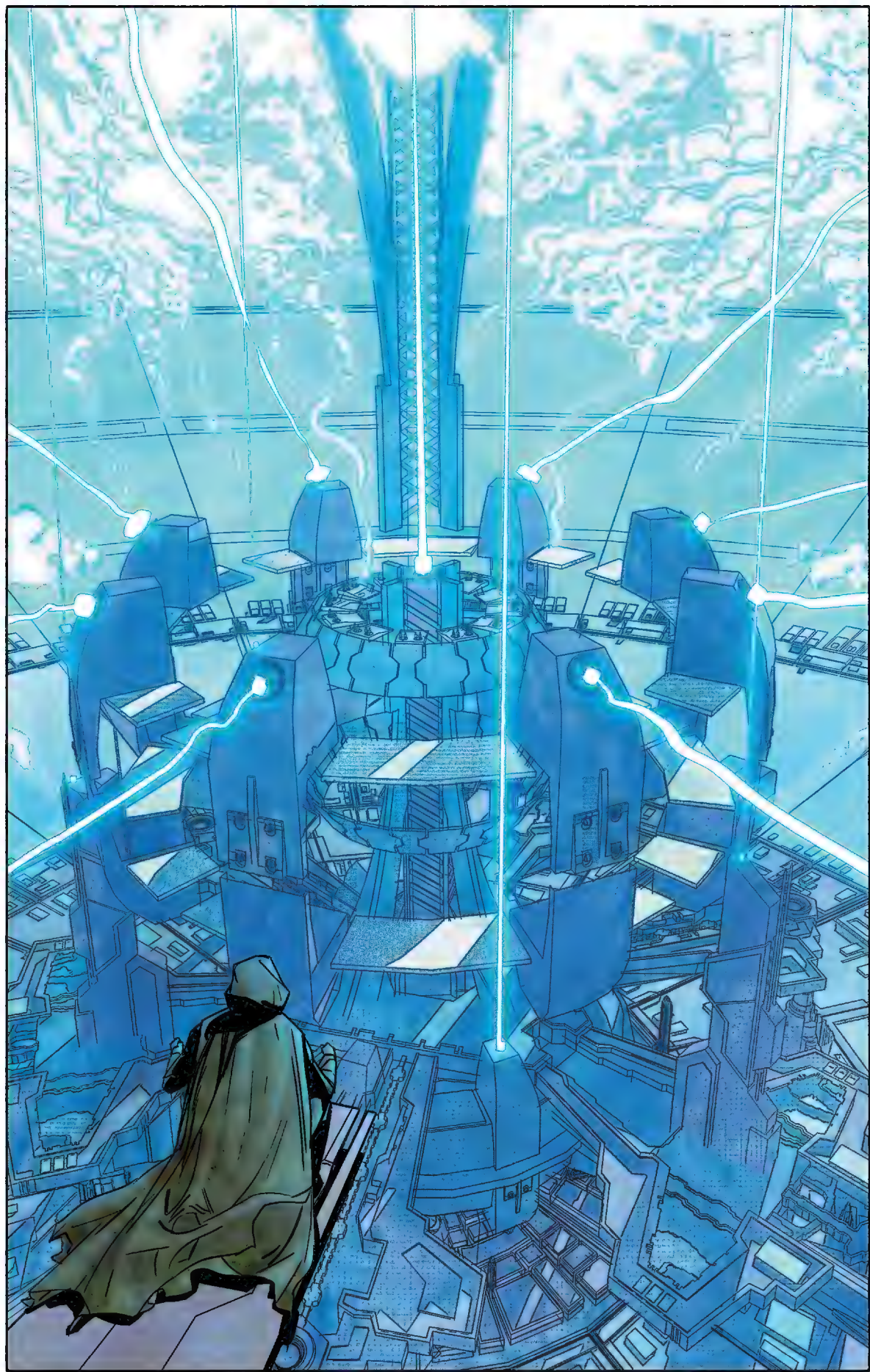


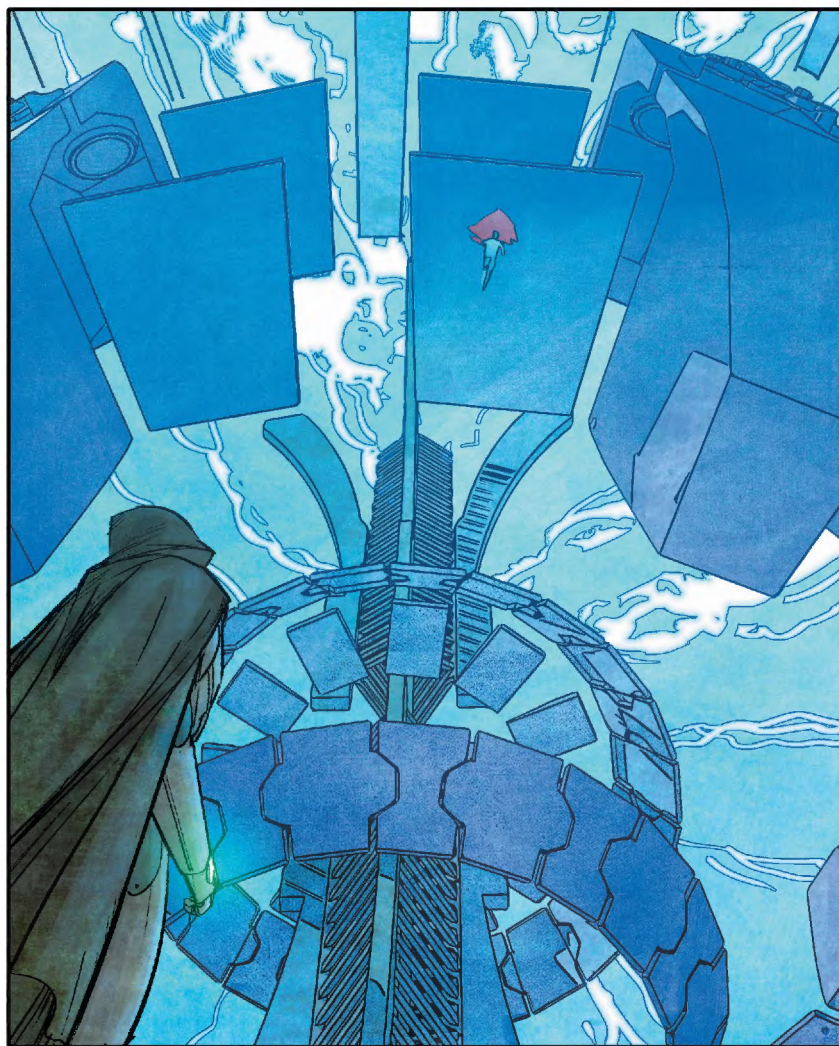
YOU ARE 100 PERCENT THE CRAZIEST PILE OF--



DO IT!









YOU
FOUND YOUR
WAY.

I REALLY,
REALLY HOPED
YOU WOULD.



WHO ARE
YOU?!

HOW HAVE
YOU DONE
THIS?



REACHING
OUT TO YOU
TOOK YEARS OF
RESEARCH.

AND EVEN
THEN, IT WAS SO...
INEXACT.

I'VE
BEEN TRYING...TO
FIND THE RIGHT
MOMENT.

YOU HAVE
NO IDEA WHAT
A RELIEF IT IS TO
FINALLY SPEAK
TO YOU.

I WONDER
HOW LONG WE
HAVE.



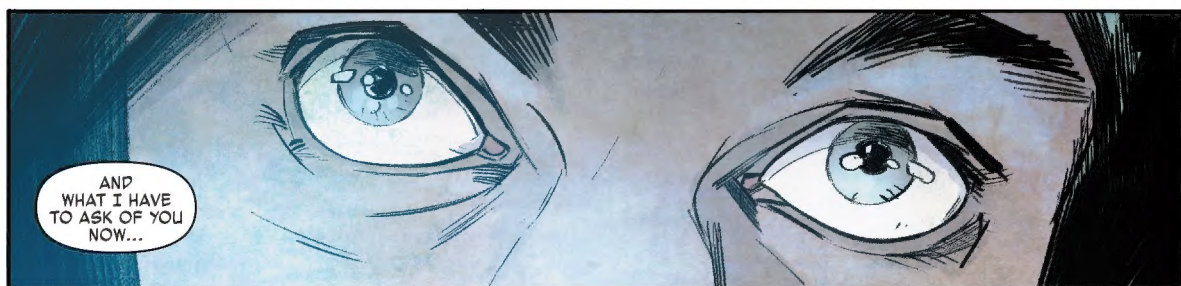
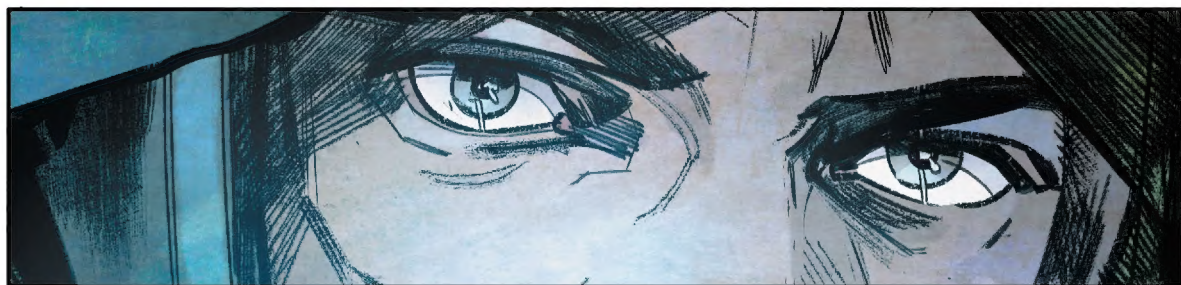
TELL ME
NOW! WHO ARE
YOU?!

I DON'T
BLAME YOU FOR
NOT RECOGNIZING
ME...



...I AM SURE
THIS IS ALL VERY
CONFUSING.

I CAN ONLY
IMAGINE.



AND
WHAT I HAVE
TO ASK OF YOU
NOW...



...WILL
BE EVEN MORE
SHOCKING.

HELLO,
VICTOR.

IT'S ME.

YEAH...
IT'S TONY
STARK.

TO BE
CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:



FUTURE VISIONS!